Economic and Social Council

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Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 8 April 2015

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2015/L.5)*]

2015/2. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2013/11 of 22 July 2013,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS,[1]

Underscoring the importance of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, adopted at the high-level meeting on HIV and AIDS of the General Assembly on 10 June 2011,[2] as a key reference for the 2011–2015 Strategy: Getting to Zero of the Joint Programme, as well as the upcoming 2016–2021 updated and extended strategy,

Recalling the 2011–2015 Strategy: Getting to Zero,

Welcoming the recent reports of the Joint Programme,[3] and taking note of new data and analyses contained therein, which provide compelling evidence for accelerated investment and action in the next five years, based on regional variations, to enable countries to end the HIV and AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030,

Also welcoming the reaffirmation by the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint Programme of the vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths and, in the light of the new data and analyses, its request for the Joint Programme to undertake a multi-stakeholder consultative process to update and extend the 2011–2015 Strategy: Getting to Zero and its targets to fast-track action and investment through the period from 2016 to 2021 and to align it with General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development,

[1] E/2015/8.

[2] General Assembly resolution 65/277, annex.

[3] *The Gap Report*, *Fast-track: Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030* and *UNAIDS OUTLOOK: The Cities Report*.

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Noting with appreciation the continued reporting on progress by Member States, providing the most comprehensive overview to date of the HIV and AIDS response at the country level,

Welcoming the progress made in preventing new HIV infections and increasing access to HIV treatment,

Expressing deep concern that, despite the progress made, critical challenges remain, namely, new infections in many countries and regions are on the rise, HIV prevention efforts are inadequately resourced and insufficiently implemented, and access to HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and support in most of the low- and middle-income countries is yet to be brought to scale,

Expressing particular concern that more than 50 per cent of people living with HIV do not know their HIV status, and stressing that progress in this area is critical to the achievement of the targets of 90 per cent of all people living with HIV knowing their HIV status, 90 per cent of all people with diagnosed HIV infection receiving sustained antiretroviral therapy and 90 per cent of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy having viral suppression by 2020,

Recognizing the value of lessons learned from the multisectoral response to HIV and AIDS in addressing other complex health and development challenges, and recognizing also that progress in the AIDS response has led to progress on broader development outcomes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;[1]

2. *Urges* the Joint Programme to continue to support the full and effective implementation of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS;[2]

3. *Stresses* the importance of the programmatic coherence of the Joint Programme to continue to leverage the comparative advantages of diverse United Nations bodies and partners in strengthening a multisectoral response to HIV and AIDS;

4. *Recognizes* that the HIV and AIDS epidemic is not over and that ending the epidemic as a public health threat by 2030 requires a fast-track response during the unprecedented window of opportunity provided by the next five years;

5. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system, civil society, local communities, families, the private sector and other partners to scale up efforts on an urgent basis to achieve the goals and targets contained in the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS and to fulfil the unmet Millennium Development Goals that are relevant to HIV and AIDS, in particular Goal 6, including through sharing best practices and strengthening the capacities of developing countries;

6. *Recognizes* that in order to ensure that no one is left behind, responses and resources need to be focused on evidence-based interventions and on populations and locations where they will have the greatest impact, in accordance with specific national and regional epidemiological patterns;

7. *Underscores* that the integration of the HIV and AIDS response with the health system improves outcomes and, at the same time, contributes to the strengthening of health systems, and in that regard encourages the sharing of best practices, including through country case studies;

8. *Reaffirms* its resolution 2013/11, and in particular the value of the lessons learned from the global AIDS response for the post-2015 development agenda, including those learned from the unique approach of the Joint Programme, and also reaffirms that the Joint Programme offers the United Nations system a useful example, to be considered, as appropriate, of enhanced strategic coherence, coordination, results-based focus, inclusive governance and country-level impact, based on national contexts and priorities;

9. *Looks forward* to the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS to be convened by the General Assembly in 2016, and underlines the important opportunity provided by this meeting to further fast-track the response and to advance the ambitious commitment to end the HIV and AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030;

10. *Notes* the ongoing need to close the AIDS resource gap, in line with the principles of shared responsibility and global solidarity, encourages countries to scale up domestic and international funding for the response, and emphasizes that action is needed to ensure political, programmatic and financial accountability at all levels;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2017, a report prepared by the Executive Director of the Joint Programme in collaboration with its co-sponsors and other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, on progress made in implementing a coordinated response by the United Nations system to the HIV and AIDS epidemic.

22nd plenary meeting
8 April 2015